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| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE FORM PTO-1390 (REV. 9-2001) | | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER ACO 2701 PLUS |
| TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 | | U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5 10/018501 |
| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP 00/03408 | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 14 April 2000 | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 29 April 1999 |
| TITLE OF INVENTION OXIDATIVELY DRYING COATING COMPOSITION COMPRISING A POLYTHIOL | | |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Frank Johannes Alfred Dirk Bakkeren, Robert Paul Klaasen and Adriaan Jozefus Hendricus Lansbergen | | |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information: | | |
| <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). <p>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). (unsigned)</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p> | | |
| Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included: | | |
| <p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. Marked Up Version of Specification and Claims</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4)</p> <p>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Copy of International Search Report dated 1 August 2000 Copy of International Preliminary Examination Report dated 19 July 2001 Express Mail Label No.: EM122094135US</p> | | |

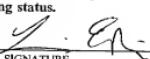
U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/018501

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO
PCT/EP 00/03408ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER
ACO 2701 PLUS

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|---|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 21. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: | | CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY | |
| BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5): Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO..... | | \$1040.00 | |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO | | \$890.00 | |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO..... | | \$740.00 | |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) | | \$710.00 | |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) | | \$100.00 | |
| ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = | | | |
| \$ 890.00 | | | |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). | | | |
| \$ — | | | |
| CLAIMS | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE |
| Total claims | 14 - 20 = | — | x \$18.00 |
| Independent claims | 1 - 3 = | — | x \$84.00 |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) | | + \$280.00 | |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = | | | |
| \$ 890.00 | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2. | | | |
| + \$ — | | | |
| SUBTOTAL = | | | |
| \$ 890.00 | | | |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). | | | |
| \$ — | | | |
| TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = | | | |
| \$ 890.00 | | | |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property + \$ — | | | |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = | | | |
| \$ 890.00 | | | |
| | | Amount to be refunded: | \$ |
| | | charged: | \$ |
| <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>01-1350</u> in the amount of \$ <u>890.00</u> to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>01-1350</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038</p> | | | |

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:



SIGNATURE

Lainie E. Parker

NAME

36,123

REGISTRATION NUMBER

29 October 2001

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
BAKKEREN, F. et al.

Docket: ACO 2701 P1US

Serial No.: Unassigned
Int. Filing Date: April 14, 2000

Examiner: -----

For: Oxidatively Drying Coating Composition
Comprising A Polythiol

Group Art Unit: -----

BOX PCT
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified application
as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please change lines 1 and 2 to read as follows:

-- OXIDATIVELY DRYING COATING COMPOSITION COMPRISING A
POLYTHIOL

This application is the national phase of PCT/EP00/03408, filed April 14, 2001,
which claims the benefit of European Patent Application No. 99201352.4, filed
April 29, 1999. --

Page 1, please change lines 3-4 to read as follows:

- -FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a coating composition comprising a polyunsaturated polymer, a thiol compound, and a photo-initiator.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION-

Page 1, please change lines 18-24 to read as follows:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The object of the invention is a coating composition according to the opening paragraph, which is free of the above mentioned drawbacks. Furthermore, the coating composition should show fast curing at low temperatures on the one hand and sufficiently long shelf life, especially for one-pot systems, on the other.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The object of the invention is achieved by a coating composition comprising:

- a. one or more thiol compounds;- -

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2-10 to read as follows:

2. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is at least 1.5:1.
3. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the coating composition comprises 1 - 30 wt.% of thiol compounds, related to the total weight of solid resin.

4. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein one or more isocyanates are used as building blocks for the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products.

5. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the coating composition is a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 40 wt.% solvents.

6. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is an aqueous coating composition.

7. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the photoinitiator is active by visible light.

8. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the photoinitiator is an acyl phosphine oxide compound.

9. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products is the thiol compound, or is one of the thiol compounds.

10. (Amended) Use of a coating composition according to claim 1 as a one component coating system.

Please add the following new claims:

11. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is between 2:1 and 20:1.

12. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the coating composition comprises 3 - 20 wt.% of thiol compounds, related to the total weight of solid resin.

13. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the coating composition is a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 30 wt.% solvents.

14. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the photoinitiator is a mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide compound or a mixture thereof.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the following abstract on a separate page after the claims:

- -ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A coating composition comprising: one or more thiol compounds; one or more oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products of one or more fatty acids and/or esters, one or more polyols and optionally one or more polycarboxylic acids and/or anhydrides of polycarboxylic acids and optionally other building blocks; and one or more photo-initiators. The ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is preferably between 2:1 and 20:1. Preferably, the photoinitiator is a mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide or a mixture thereof. The coating composition according to the invention can be used as a one component coating system, preferably as a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 30 wt.% solvents, or as an aqueous coating composition.- -

Remarks

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to amend the specification, claims and abstract. A Marked Version of the amendments is appended to the end of this amendment.

It is respectfully submitted that these remarks explain how the claimed subject matter is not narrowed by this Preliminary Amendment.

The amendments to the specification add headings (FIELD OF THE INVENTION, SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, etc.) and priority claims to comply with US practice. These headings and priority claims do not have any effect on the subject matter claimed herein and, thus, do not narrow the same.

Many of the claims presented in the application recite "wherein", in accordance with US practice, instead of "characterized in that", as in the priority applications. These transitional phrases have the same meaning and, thus, the scope of the claimed subject matter is the same and not more narrow in the claims as amended.

Further, many of the claims presented in the application recite single dependencies rather than the multiple dependencies in the priority applications to avoid the fee therefor. This does not narrow the claims, since at any one time a multiple dependent claim includes the limitations of only one of the claims from which it depends, and claims with single dependencies still include the limitations of the claim from which they depend.

Still further, many of the claims presented in the application recite preferred aspects in separate claims, in accordance with US practice. For example, instead of claim 2 reciting that "the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is at least 1.5:1, preferably between 2:1 and 20:1", a first claim recites that "the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is at least 1.5:1" and a second separate claim recites that "the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is between 2:1 and 20:1". The use of two claims instead of one does not affect the scope of the claim and claim 2 is simply broader than the new claim.

Early and favorable consideration of the claims is respectfully
requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Lainie E. Parker
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Registration No.: 36,123

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Intellectual Property Dept.
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(914) 674-5466

Encl: Marked Version

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MARKED VERSIONIN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, lines 1 and 2, after "OXIDATIVELY DRYING COATING COMPOSITION COMPRISING A POLYTHIOL" insert -- This application is the national phase of PCT/EP00/03408, filed April 14, 2001, which claims the benefit of European Patent Application No. 99201352.4, filed April 29, 1999. --

Page 1, between lines 2 and 3, please insert - -FIELD OF THE INVENTION- --

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, please insert - -BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION- --

Page 1, between lines 17 and 18, please insert - -SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION- --

Page 1, between lines 22 and 23, please insert - -DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION- --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2-10 as follows:

2. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [characterized in that in] the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is at least 1.5:1 [1.5:1, preferably between 2:1 and 20:1].
3. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] the coating composition comprises 1 - 30 wt.%, [preferably 3 - 20 wt.%,] of thiol compounds, related to the total weight of solid resin.
4. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] one or more isocyanates are used as building blocks for the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products.

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5. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] the coating composition is a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 40 wt.%, preferably 0 – 30 wt.%] solvents.
6. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of claims 1 – 4 characterized in that] the composition is an aqueous coating composition.
7. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] the photoinitiator is active by visible light.
8. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] the photoinitiator is an acyl phosphine oxide compound[, preferably mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide or a mixture thereof].
9. (Amended) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein [one of the preceding claims characterized in that] at least one of the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products is the thiol compound, or is one of the thiol compounds.
10. (Amended) Use of a coating composition according to [one of claims 1 – 9] claim 1 as a one component coating system.

Please add the following new claims:

- 11. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is between 2:1 and 20:1.
12. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the coating composition comprises 3 - 20 wt.% of thiol compounds, related to the total weight of solid resin.

13. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the coating composition is a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 30 wt.% solvents.
14. (New) Coating composition according to claim 1, wherein the photoinitiator is a mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide compound or a mixture thereof. - -

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the following abstract on a separate page after the claims:

- -ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A coating composition comprising: one or more thiol compounds; one or more oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products of one or more fatty acids and/or esters, one or more polyols and optionally one or more polycarboxylic acids and/or anhydrides of polycarboxylic acids and optionally other building blocks; and one or more photo-initiators. The ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is preferably between 2:1 and 20:1. Preferably, the photoinitiator is a mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide or a mixture thereof. The coating composition according to the invention can be used as a one component coating system, preferably as a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 30 wt.% solvents, or as an aqueous coating composition. - -

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OXIDATIVELY DRYING COATING COMPOSITION COMPRISING A
POLYTHIOL

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The present invention relates to a coating composition comprising a polyunsaturated polymer, a thiol compound, and a photo-initiator.

US 3,729,404 discloses a composition comprising a polythiol, a polyene, and a photo-sensitizer. The photo-sensitizer is used in combination with a phosphine or phosphite compound. In this known composition, no oxidative drying takes place. The thiol compound serves as a cross linker. The specific polyenes as used in the examples in this publication have only two double bonds per chain, included by allylic groups. Such groups cause the formation of acrolein, which is a toxic compound. Since there are only two terminal unsaturated moieties per chain, such composition cures slowly and gives soft coating films. A similar composition is disclosed in US 4,078,118.

GB-A 2,189,499 discloses a coating composition comprising an unsaturated polyorganosiloxane, a thio-functional organosiloxane and a photo-initiator. Due to the large content of siloxane groups, recoatability and the pigments dispersibility are very poor.

The object of the invention is a coating composition according to the opening paragraph, which is free of the above mentioned drawbacks. Furthermore, the coating composition should show fast curing at low temperatures on the one hand and sufficiently long shelf life, especially for one-pot systems, on the other.

30 The object of the invention is achieved by a coating composition comprising:
a. one or more thiol compounds;

INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE

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- b. one or more oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products of one or more fatty acids and/or esters, one or more polyols and optionally one or more polycarboxylic acids and/or anhydrides of polycarboxylic acids and optionally other building blocks; and
- c. one or more photo-initiators.

10 It has surprisingly been found that the addition of thiol compounds to oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products leads in the presence of a photo-

15 initiator to much faster curing at low temperatures in comparison with the usual coating compositions comprising oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products and dryers. Though the composition according to the invention shows fast curing, a good shelf-life is obtained, even in one-pot systems.

20 Preferably, the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products have more than five double and/or triple bonds.

25 The unsaturated groups in the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation product are preferably introduced by the fatty acids, but may, alternatively or additionally, be introduced by one or more of the used polyols, carboxylic acids or anhydrides or other building blocks.

30 Suitable oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products are alkyd resins. At least a part of the alkyd resin is oxidatively drying as a result of incorporating a large number of unsaturated, aliphatic compounds, at least a portion of which is polyunsaturated. The unsaturated aliphatic compounds preferably are unsaturated fatty acids, more particularly polyunsaturated fatty acids. Examples of mono-unsaturated fatty acids are myristoleic acid, palmitoleic acid, oleic acid, gadoleic acid, erucic acid, and ricinoleic acid and mixtures thereof. Examples of polyunsaturated fatty acids include linoleic fatty acid, linolenic fatty acid, elaeostearic fatty acid, licanic fatty acid, arachidonic

fatty acid, clupanodonic fatty acid, nisinic fatty acid, and mixtures thereof. Fatty acids containing conjugated double bonds, such as dehydrated Castor oil fatty acid, wood oil fatty acid and/or Calendula oil fatty acid can be used as well.

5 Examples of suitable divalent polyol compounds are ethylene glycol, 1,3-propane diol, 1,6-hexane diol, 1,12-dodecane diol, 3-methyl-1,5-pentane diol, 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,6-hexane diol, 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-propane diol, and 2-methyl-2-cyclohexyl-1,3-propane diol. Examples of suitable triols are glycerol, trimethylol ethane, and trimethylol propane. Suitable polyols having more than 3 hydroxyl

10 groups are pentaerythritol, sorbitol, and etherification products of the compounds in question, such as ditrimethylol propane and di-, tri-, and tetrapentaerythritol. Preferably, use is made of compounds having 3-12 carbon atoms, e.g., glycerol, pentaerythritol and/or dipentaerythritol.

15 Alternatively or additionally polycarboxylic acids can be used as building blocks for the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products. Examples of suitable polycarboxylic acids include phthalic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid, mesaconic acid, maleic acid, citraconic acid, isophthalic acid, terephthalic acid, 5-tert. butyl isophthalic acid, trimellitic acid, pyromellitic acid, succinic acid, adipic acid, 2,2,4-trimethyl adipic acid, azelaic acid, sebacic acid, dimerised fatty acids, cyclopentane-1,2-dicarboxylic acid, cyclohexane-1,2-dicarboxylic acid, 4-methylcyclohexane-1,2-dicarboxylic acid, tetrahydrophthalic acid, endo-methylene-cyclohexane-1,2-dicarboxylic acid, butane-1,2,3,4-tetracarboxylic acid, endoisopropylidene-cyclohexane-1,2-dicarboxylic acid, cyclohexane-1,2,4,5-tetracarboxylic acid, and butane-1,2,3,4-tetracarboxylic acid. If so desired, the carboxylic acids in question may be used as anhydrides or in the form of an ester, e.g., an ester of an alcohol having 1-4 carbon atoms.

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30 Optionally, the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation product may comprise other building blocks, that may for example be derived from monocarboxylic acids such as pivalic acid, 2-ethylhexanoic acid, lauric acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, 4-tert.butyl-benzoic acid, cyclopentane carboxylic

acid, naphthenic acid, cyclohexane carboxylic acid, 2,4-dimethyl benzoic acid, 2-methyl benzoic acid, benzoic acid, 2,2-dimethylol propionic acid, tetrahydrobenzoic acid, and hydrogenated or non-hydrogenated abietic acid or its isomer. If so desired, the monocarboxylic acids in question may be used wholly or in part as triglyceride, e.g., as vegetable oil, in the preparation of the alkyd resin. If so desired, mixtures of two or more of such monocarboxylic acids or triglycerides may be employed.

10 Optionally, isocyanates can also be used as a building block for the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation product. Suitable isocyanates are for example diisocyanates, such as 1,6-hexane diisocyanate, isophorone diisocyanate, toluene diisocyanate, diphenyl diisocyanate and dicyclohexylmethane diisocyanate. Triisocyanates can also be used.

15 A specific example of a suitable alkyd is the condensation product of soya oil, phthalic anhydride, and pentaerythritol.

20 The alkyd resins can be obtained by direct esterification of the constituent components, with the option of a portion of these components having been converted already into ester diols or polyester diols. Alternatively, the unsaturated fatty acids can be added in the form of a drying oil, such as sunflower oil, linseed oil, tuna fish oil, dehydrated Castor oil, coconut oil, and dehydrated coconut oil. Transesterification with the polyols and, optionally, 25 other building blocks will then give the final alkyd resin. This transesterification generally takes place at a temperature in the range of 115 to 250°C, optionally with solvents such as toluene and/or xylene also present. The reaction generally is carried out in the presence of a catalytic amount of a transesterification catalyst. Examples of transesterification catalysts suitable for 30 use include acids such as p-toluene sulphonic acid, a basic compound such as an amine, or compounds such as calcium oxide, zinc oxide, tetraisopropyl orthotitanate, dibutyl tin oxide, and triphenyl benzyl phosphonium chloride.

Preferably, the coating composition comprises more than 70 wt.% of oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products, related to the total weight of solid resin. The molecular weight of the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products may for instance be between 50 – 80.000, preferably between 500 – 10.000.

Examples of suitable thiol compounds include, but are not limited to, the esters of thioglycolic acid, thiosalicylic acid, mercapto succinic acid, mercapto acetic acid, 2-mercaptopropionic acid or 3-mercaptopropionic acid with polyols, such as glycols, pentaerythritol, di-pentaerythritol and trimethylolpropane, and optionally a fatty acid, such as oleic acid, stearic acid, isononanoic acid or sunflower fatty acid. Specific examples of suitable thiol compounds are ethylene glycol bis (thioglycolate), ethylene glycol bis (2-mercaptopropionate), ethylene glycol bis (3-mercaptopropionate), pentaerythritol tetrakis (thioglycolate), pentaerythritol tetrakis (2-mercaptopropionate), pentaerythritol tetrakis (2-mercaptopropionate), pentaerythritol tetrakis (3-mercaptopropionate), trimethylolpropane tris(2-mercaptopropionate), trimethylolpropane tris(3-mercaptopropionate) and the condensation product of di-trimethylolpropane, 2,2-dimethylolpropionic acid, stearic acid and 3-mercaptopropionic acid.

A further example of a suitable thiol compound consists of a hyperbranched polyol core based on a starter polyol, e.g. trimethylolpropane, and dimethylol propionic acid. This polyol is subsequently esterified with 3-mercaptopropionic acid and isononanoic acid. These methods are described in European patent application EP-A 0 448 224 and international patent application WO 93/17060.

The thiol compound may for example have a structure according to the following formula: $R[(C_3H_6O)_nCH_2CHOHCH_2SH]_3$ with R being a triol such as trimethylolpropane or glycerol. An example of such a compound is commercially available from Henkel under the trademark Henkel Capcure[®] 3/800.

A further synthesis scheme involves the reaction of an aryl or alkyl halide with NaHS for introducing a pendant mercaptan group into the alkyl compound, or aryl compound respectively. Yet another alternative is to react a Grignard reagent with sulfur for introducing a pendant mercaptan group into the structure. A Michael addition reaction of a polymer mercaptan with a polyolefin is another example of a preparation method of a polyfunctional mercaptan.

Preferably, the coating composition comprises 1 - 30 wt.% of thiol compounds, related to the total weight of solid resin, more preferably 3 - 20 wt.% of thiol compounds. The thiols may for example have a molecular weight of 50 - 20.000.

Alternatively, the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation product and the thiol compound can be embodied in the same copolymer, if so desired.

The ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups in the coating composition is preferably at least 1,5:1. Best results are obtained if this ratio is between 2:1 and 20:1.

The photo-initiators suitable for use according to the invention generally are compounds activated by UV-radiation and/or daylight. Examples of suitable photoinitiators include e.g. ketones, such as methyl ethyl ketone, 2,3-butanedione, 1-hydroxy cyclohexyl phenyl ketone, 2-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-phenyl propan-1-one and aromatic ketones e.g. acetophenone, benzophenone, 25 4-aminobenzo-phenone, 4,4'-diaminobenzophenone, 4,4'-bis(dimethylamino) benzophenone, valero-phenone, hexanophenone, o-methoxybenzophenone, α -phenylbutyrophenone, γ -phenylbutyrophenone, p-morpholinopropiophenone, dibenzosuberone, 4-morpholinobenzophenone, 4-methoxyacetophenone, p-30 diacetylbenzene, 1,3,5-triacetylbenzene; benzoin compounds e.g. benzoin, benzoin methyl ether and benzoin ethyl ether, 4-morpholinodeoxybenzoin; quinone and anthrone compounds e.g. hydroquinone, anthraquinone,

napthoquinone, acenaphthenequinone, and 3-methyl-1,3-diazo-1,9-benzanthrone; phenolic compounds e.g. 2,4-dinitrophenol; phosphine compounds such as triphenyl-phosphine and tri-o-tolyphosphine; azo compounds e.g. azobisisobutyronitrile; thioxanthone compounds including for example 2-isopropyl-thioxanthone, 1-chloro-4-propoxythioxanthone, 2,4-diethoxythioxanthone, and 2-chlorothioxanthone; and various other compounds e.g. benzil, benzaldehyde, 1-naphthaldehyde, α -tetralone, 2-acetylphenanthrene, 3-acetylphenanthrene, 9-acetyl-phenanthrene, 10-thioxanthenone, 3-acetylindole, 9-fluorenone, 1-indanone, 9-xanthenone, 9-thioxanthenone, 7-H-benz[de]anthracen-7-one, 1-acetonaphthone and 2-acetonaphthone. Mixtures of different photo-initiators may be used.

Preferably, the photoinitiator is a phosphine oxide compound, such as 2,4,6-trimethyl benzoyldiphenyl phosphine oxide (Lucirin[®] TPO, available from BASF) or bis(2,6-dimethoxy-benzoyl)-2,4,4-trimethyl pentyl phosphine oxide (DMBAPO, Irgacure[®] 403, available from Ciba Specialty Chemicals). Particularly preferable are acyl phosphine oxide compounds, such as mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide or mixtures thereof. An example of bisacylphosphine oxide photo-initiators is bis(2,4,6-trimethylbenzoyl)-phenyl-phosphine oxide (Irgacure[®] 819, available from Ciba Specialty Chemicals).

Preferably, the composition comprises 0,01 – 10 wt.% of a photo-initiator, more preferably 0,1 – 3 wt.%, based on total weight of solid resin.

The coating composition according to the invention may furthermore contain various additives such as UV stabilizers, cosolvents, dispersants, surfactants, inhibitors, fillers, anti-static agents, flame-retardant agents, lubricants, anti-foaming agents, extenders, plasticizers, anti-oxidants, anti-freezing agents, waxes, thickeners, thixotropic agents, etc. The composition may be used as a clear varnish or may contain pigments. Examples of pigments suitable for use are metal oxides, such as titanium dioxide or iron oxide, or other inorganic or organic pigments.

Because of the drying characteristics of the coating composition according to the invention, no metal dryers, such as cobalt, are needed. However, such driers can be used additionally, if so desired.

5 The coating composition according to the present invention can be used as a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 40 wt.%, preferably 0 – 30 wt.% solvents. However, it is also suitable for conventional coating compositions with a higher solvents content. Alternatively, the composition can be used as an 10 aqueous coating composition.

15 The coating composition according to the present invention can be applied by conventional methods, including brushing, roll coating, spray coating, or dipping.

20 The composition may be stored as a one component coating composition, preferably in a light proof container. Alternatively, the coating composition may be stored in two or more components, which are mixed before use.

25 The coating composition according to the invention is specifically suitable for use as a decorative or do-it-yourself coating, e.g. for wood substrates, such as door- or window frames, but can also be used in industry, in particular for wooden substrates. The coating composition may also be used for substrates made of metal, concrete, plastic materials or other materials.

30 The invention is further described and illustrated by the following examples. In these examples the compositions listed below are available as indicated.

Irgacure® 819 a bisacetylphosphine oxide, commercially available from Ciba Specialty Chemicals;

Nuodex Combi® APB a dryer comprising cobalt, zirconium and calcium, commercially available from Servo Delden BV, Delden, the Netherlands;

5 Setai® 270 a conventional alkyd resin based on soya bean oil, pentaerythritol and phthalic anhydride, having a solids content of about 70 % in white spirit, commercially available from Akzo Nobel Resins, Bergen op Zoom, the Netherlands;

10 Setai® 293 a solvent free alkyd resin, based on pentaerythritol and unsaturated fatty acids derived from sunflower oil. Commercially available from Akzo Nobel Resins, Bergen op Zoom, the Netherlands;

15 Synolac® 6094 a high solids alkyd resin, based on linoleic fatty acid, having a solids content of about 88 % in isoparaffinic solvent, commercially available from Cray Valley Ltd, United Kingdom.

In the examples, the following abbreviations are used:

20 BAPO bisacylphosphine oxide;

PT3MP pentaerythritol tetrakis (3-mercaptopropionate), a thiol compound commercially available from Aldrich;

PVC pigment volume concentration.

25 In the following, weight percentages are based upon the total weight of the binder, consisting of the polycondensation products and the thiol compounds present in the composition concerned.

30 The drying time is measured as follows. The coating composition was applied with a draw bar on a glass plate. Curing took place at 10° C and 80% relative humidity in a climatized room under TL-055 light. Drying was tested by means

of a BK Drying Recorder. The results obtained in this fashion can be classified as follows:

Phase 1 : the line traced by the pin closes up again ("open time").

Phase 2 : the pin traces a scratchy line ("dust free").

5 Phase 3 : the pin traces a straight line in the paint which does not close up again ("tack-free time").

Examples 1 – 6, comparative examples A and B

10 In examples 1 – 6, coating compositions were prepared with contents of pentaerythritol tetrakis (3-mercaptopropionate) (PT3MP) increasing from 1 wt.% to 20 wt.%. Comparative examples A and B relate to a composition not comprising thiol compounds. In examples 1 – 6 and comparative example B, 0,5 wt.% of bisacylphosphine oxide (Irgacure® 819) was used as the photoinitiator. The composition of comparative example A does not comprise photoinitiators, but comprises in stead thereof 7,5 wt.% relative to the total weight of the binder, of Nuodex Combi® APB, which is a dryer comprising cobalt, zirconium and calcium. Based on the content of pentaerythritol tetrakis (3-mercaptopropionate) and the alkyd content in comparative example A, the 20 composition comprises 0.06 wt.% cobalt, 0.38 wt.% zirconium, 0.23 wt.% calcium. Furthermore, it comprises an anti-skinning agent giving 0.54 wt.% 2-butanone oxim.

25 The compositions of examples 1 – 6 and of comparative examples A and B all comprise a high solid alkyd based upon sunflower fatty acid, with oil content of 74 % and solids content of 90 wt.% in white spirit with viscosity of 6,3 Pa.s at 23° C. All compositions comprise a pigment volume concentration (PVC) of 15 %.

30 Results of the drying tests with the BK Drying Recorder are given in the following table 1.

Table 1 Variation of amount of thiol resin

| | Composition | Phase 1 (hours) | Phase 2 (hours) | Phase 3 (hours) |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Example 1 | 1 wt.% PT3MP, 0.5 wt.% BAPO | 1,9 | 4 | 10,2 |
| Example 2 | 3 wt.% PT3MP, 0.5 wt.% BAPO | 0,8 | 1,4 | 3,9 |
| Example 3 | 5 wt.% PT3MP, 0.5 wt.% BAPO | 0,7 | 1,2 | 2,4 |
| Example 4 | 10 wt.% PT3MP, 0.5 wt.% BAPO | 0,7 | 1,1 | 1,9 |
| Example 5 | 15 wt.% PT3MP, 0.5 wt.% BAPO | 0,7 | 1,1 | 1,9 |
| Example 6 | 20 wt.% PT3MP, 0.5 wt.% BAPO | 0,6 | 1 | 2 |
| Comparative example A | 0% PT3MP Metal driers: Co, Ca, Zr | 2,6 | 3,5 | 4,7 |
| Comparative example B | 0% PT3MP 0.5 wt.% BAPO | 4,4 | 7,1 | 12,8 |

As can be seen in table 1, variation of the amount of thiol resin revealed a decrease of drying times with increasing thiol concentration. The composition of comparative example B, which did not contain a thiol resin, resulted in long drying times, whereas only 1 wt.% of pentaerythritol tetrakis (3-mercaptopropionate) led to a substantial increase of the drying speed. With 3 wt.% of pentaerythritol tetrakis (3-mercaptopropionate) faster curing was obtained than with the system using conventional metal dryers as tested in comparative example A.

Examples 7 - 11

15 In examples 7 – 11 coating compositions were prepared comprising the same
compounds as the compositions of example 3. The compositions of examples 7
– 11 all comprise pentaerythritol tetrakis (3-mercaptopropionate) in an amount
of 5 wt.% based on the total weight of the thiol and alkyd compounds. The
content of bisacylphosphine oxide was varied. Same curing tests were carried
out as in examples 1 – 6. The results are given in table 2, which gives the
20 amount of bisacylphosphine oxide in weight percentage based on the total
weight of alkyd and thiol compounds.

Table 2: Variation of amount of photo-initiator

| | BAPO content | Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Phase 3 |
|------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Example 7 | 0,25 wt.% BAPO | 1 | 2,2 | 5,9 |
| Example 8 | 0,5 wt.% BAPO | 0,7 | 1,3 | 2,6 |
| Example 9 | 1,0 wt.% BAPO | 0,5 | 0,9 | 1,7 |
| Example 10 | 2,0 wt.% BAPO | 0,3 | 0,6 | 0,8 |
| Example 11 | 3,0 wt.% BAPO | 0,3 | 0,8 | 4,6 |

As shown by table 2, increasing the amount of photoinitiator up to 2 wt.% led to 5 a decrease of drying times. However, further increasing the amount of bisacylphosphine oxide to 3.0 wt.% did not improve the reaction speed any further.

10 Example 8 is similar to example 3. Though the results are slightly different, these differences are not significant.

Examples 12 – 14

15 For examples 12 – 14, a white pigmented formulation, with a PVC of 15%, was prepared comprising 1.0 wt.% of Irgacure® 819, a thiol compound and a high solid alkyd prepared from sunflower fatty acid, with oil content of 74% and solids content of 90% in white spirit with a viscosity of 6,3 Pa.s at 23° C.

20 In example 12, the thiol compound was formed by 17 wt.% on total binder of the condensation product of di(trimethylolpropane, 2,2-dimethylolpropionic acid, stearic acid and 3-mercaptopropionic acid. This product was made in the following way: 118,6 g di(trimethylolpropane) and 508,2 g of 2,2-dimethylolpropionic acid were charged in a reaction flask equipped with stirrer, nitrogen inlet, thermo couple, Vigreux® cooler and Dean-Stark® apparatus. The 25 mixture was esterified at 140°C using 14,4 g of para-toluene sulphonic acid as a catalyst. When water distillation ceased, vacuum was applied for removal of

water. After reaching an acid value below 10, 698,4 g stearic acid was added while keeping the temperature of the mixture above 110° C. Then 5 wt.% of xylene was added and 289 g 3-mercaptopropionic acid was dosed during one hour, while the temperature was raised from 120° C to 140° C. Another 5 wt.% of xylene was added and the mixture was cooked using reflux at lowered pressure. After some hours, another 7,2 g of paratoluene-sulphonic acid was added, and the mixture was cooked until an acid value below 10 was reached. Then 4,6 g lithium carbonate and, after stirring for 30 minutes, 233 g white spirit were added. The resin was cooled and filtered with a pressure filter using a 10 Clarcel® filter aid, available from Elf Atochem. The resulting resin had a solids content of 85,6 wt.% and an acid value of 8,4 mg KOH/g on solids. Viscosity was measured at 23°C and was 1,42 Pa.s.

15 In example 13, the composition comprised as the thiol compound 15 wt.% of the condensation product of dipentaerythritol, oleic acid and 3-mercaptopropionic acid.

20 In example 14, the thiol compound was formed by the condensation product of di-trimethylolpropane, 2,2-dimethylolpropionic acid, isononanoic acid and 3-mercaptopropionic acid.

25 In the examples 12 – 14, the SH-functionality was calculated to be about 4. The number of thiol functional groups, about 10 eq.%, was equivalent with the number of thiol functional groups in the composition of example 9, which also had a calculated SH-functionality of about 4. BK-drying test results, here also obtained at 10° C, are given in table 3.

Table 3: Variation of type of thiol compound.

| | Thiol content | Phase 1 (hours) | Phase 2 (hours) | Phase 3 (hours) |
|------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Example 9 | 5 wt.% PT3MP | 0,5 | 0,9 | 1,7 |
| Example 12 | 17 wt.% thiol of example 12 | 0,3 | 0,5 | 0,8 |
| Example 13 | 15 wt.% thiol of example 13 | 0,5 | 1,0 | 1,8 |
| Example 14 | 17,5 wt.% thiol of example 14 | 0,5 | 1,5 | 2,3 |

5 Example 15, Comparative Examples C and D

For example 15, the same thiol compound was formed as in example 12. This thiol compound was used to formulate a clear coat without pigment. The clear coat consisted of 14 wt.% of the thiol compound and 86 wt.% of Setal® 270, a conventional alkyd commercially available from Akzo Nobel Resins and 1.0 wt.% of Irgacure® 819 (bisacylphosphine oxide) on total binder.

In Comparative Examples C and D, a clear coat composition was prepared that did not comprise a thiol compound. The binder consisted of 100 wt.% Setal®

15 270. In Comparative Example C metal dryers were used in stead of a photoinitiator. The used metal dryer was 7,5 wt.% of Nuodex Combi® APB, resulting in the presence of 0,06 wt.% cobalt, 0,38 wt.% zirconium and 0,23 wt.% calcium, all percentages by total weight of the binder. The composition of Comparative Example D did not contain metal dryers, but did contain 1 wt.% of

20 Irgacure® 819 (bisacylphosphine oxide).

Drying of the compositions of example 15 and of comparative examples C and D was tested as set out above. Results are shown in Table 4.

Table 4

| | Composition | Phase 1 (hours) | Phase 2 (hours) | Phase 3 (hours) |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Example 15 | 14 wt.% thiol compound 86 wt.% Seta [®] 270, 1 wt.% BAPO | 0,9 | 1,0 | 2,1 |
| Comparative example C | 100 wt.% Seta [®] 270, Nuodex Combi [®] APB | 1,4 | 2,0 | 5,0 |
| Comparative example D | 100 wt.% Seta [®] 270, 1 wt.% BAPO | 1,0 | 2,3 | 4,2 |

5 Examples 16 and 17, Comparative Examples E – H

The thiol compound as prepared in example 15, was used to prepare clear coat compositions for examples 16 and 17. In example 16, the clear coat composition comprised 14 wt.% of the thiol compound and 86 wt.% of Seta[®] 293, a high solids alkyd resin. In example 17, the clear coat composition comprised 14 wt.% of the thiol compound and 86 wt.% of Synolac[®] 6094, also a high solids alkyd resin.

Comparative examples E and F were carried out with clear coat compositions comprising 100 wt.% Seta[®] 293. The clear coat compositions of comparative examples G and H comprised 100 wt.% Synolac[®] 6094. In comparative examples E and G, 7,5 wt.% Nuodex Combi[®] APB was used in stead of a photo-initiator. In comparative examples F and H, in which no metal dryers were used, the clear coat compositions comprised 1 wt.% of Irgacure[®] 819 (bisacylphosphine oxide).

Results of drying tests, carried out as set out above, are given in Table 5.

Table 5

| | Composition | Phase 1 (hours) | Phase 2 (hours) | Phase 3 (hours) |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Example 16 | 14 wt.% thiol compound of example 15 86 wt.% Seta [®] 293, 1-wt.% BAPO | 0 | 2,0 | 3,4 |
| Comparative Example E | 100 wt.% Seta [®] 293, Nuodex Combi [®] APB | 3,5 | 4,3 | 7,4 |
| Comparative Example F | 100 wt.% Seta [®] 293, 1 wt.% BAPO | 6,3 | 8,2 | 13,5 |
| Example 17 | 14 wt.% thiol compound of example 15 86 wt.% Synolac [®] 6094, 1 wt.% BAPO | 0 | 0,4 | 1,2 |
| Comparative Example G | 100 wt.% Synolac [®] 6094, Nuodex Combi [®] APB | 4,1 | 4,6 | 5,5 |
| Comparative Example H | 100 wt.% Synolac [®] 6094, 1 wt.% BAPO | 5,0 | 6,3 | 11,7 |

CLAIMS

1) Coating composition comprising:

5 a. one or more thiol compounds;

b. one or more oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products of one or more fatty acids and/or esters, one or more polyols and optionally one or more polycarboxylic acids and/or anhydrides of polycarboxylic acids and optionally other building blocks;

10 c. and one or more photo-initiators.

2) Coating composition according to claim 1 characterized in that in the ratio between the number of unsaturated groups and the number of SH-functional groups is at least 1,5:1, preferably between 2:1 and 20:1.

3) Coating composition according to one of the preceding claims characterized in that the coating composition comprises 1 - 30 wt.%, preferably 3 - 20 wt.%, of thiol compounds, related to the total weight of solid resin.

4) Coating composition according to one of the preceding claims characterized in that one or more isocyanates are used as building blocks for the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products.

25 5) Coating composition according to one of the preceding claims characterized in that the coating composition is a high solids coating composition, comprising 0 – 40 wt.%, preferably 0 – 30 wt.% solvents.

30 6) Coating composition according to one of claims 1 – 4 characterized in that the composition is an aqueous coating composition.

7) Coating composition according to one of the preceding claims characterized in that the photoinitiator is active by visible light.

8) Coating composition according to one of the preceding claims characterized in that the photoinitiator is an acyl phosphine oxide compound, preferably mono-, bis- or trisacyl phosphine oxide or a mixture thereof.

5

9) Coating composition according to one of the preceding claims characterized in that at least one of the oxidatively drying polyunsaturated condensation products is the thiol compound, or is one of the thiol compounds.

10

10) Use of a coating composition according to one of claims 1 – 9 as a one component coating system.

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DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:
OXIDATIVELY DRYING COATING COMPOSITION COMPRISING A POLYTHIOL

was filed on **14 April 2000** as Appln. Ser. No. **PCT/EP00/03408**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. All factual statements made in the specification of my own knowledge are true and all factual statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

I acknowledge to the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Priority Claimed

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| <u>99201352.4</u> | <u>EUROPE</u> | <u>29 APRIL 1999</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> |
| (Number) | (Country) | (Day/Month/Year) | | | |

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any provisional application(s) listed below:

Appln. Ser. No.

Country

Day/Month/Year

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Appl. Ser. No.) (Filing Date) (Status: patented, pending, abandoned)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following as my attorneys of record, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent Office:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Sec. 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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